

CARLOS M. RAMIREZ
MAYOR

MONICA D. CUNNINGHAM
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

ESTRELLA ESCOBAR
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR

MARK THREADGILL
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR



CITY COUNCIL

JAN SUMRALL
DISTRICT NO. 1

ROSE RODRIGUEZ
DISTRICT NO. 2

LARRY M. MEDINA
DISTRICT NO. 3

JOHN F. COOK
DISTRICT NO. 4

PRESI ORTEGA, JR.
DISTRICT NO. 5

PAUL JOSEPH ESCOBAR
DISTRICT NO. 6

LUIS G. SARIÑANA
DISTRICT NO. 7

ELVIA G. HERNANDEZ
DISTRICT NO. 8

**SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF
THE EL PASO CITY COUNCIL AND
THE EL PASO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT
TENTH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY HALL BUILDING
February 27, 2001**

The City Council met in special session at the above place and date at 3:15 P.M. Mayor Carlos M. Ramirez present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Jan Sumrall, Rose Rodriguez, Larry M. Medina, John F. Cook, Presi Ortega, Jr., and Paul J. Escobar, Absent: Luis G. Sariñana and Elvia G. Hernandez.

Judge Dolores Briones was absent. Also present were Commissioners Charles Scruggs, Miguel Teran, and Carlos Aguilar. Commissioner Dan Haggerty was absent.

The agenda of this Joint Meeting of the El Paso City Council and the El Paso County Commissioners Court was as follows:

Presentation by the El Paso Sports Committee on the Marketing and Facilities Strategic Study
.....

Mayor Carlos Ramirez welcomed the Commissioners and those present and made opening comments. He turned the meeting over to Mr. Jimmy Rogers, Co-Chair of the El Paso Sports & Entertainment Committee. Mr. Rogers stated he appreciated everyone being here today. He commented on the agenda, stating this meeting should last about an hour, allowing for opening remarks, presentation by representatives of C. H. Johnson Consulting, Inc., closing remarks and questions and answers.

Mr. Rogers introduced Mr. Eddie Rodriguez, a member of the Sports & Entertainment Committee, and stated Mr. Rodriguez would be addressing the group with him since the other Co-Chair was out of town. Commissioner Aguilar commented on Judge Briones' absence, stating she was

unable to attend and he would be conducting the County's side of this meeting. Mr. Rodriguez thanked those involved with this project, the members of the El Paso Sports & Entertainment Committee, the Chamber of Commerce, and Community Action Group. He stated with the budget received from the City and the County, they were able to receive a very objective report and now have an effective blue print for the purpose of assessing the opportunity for a sports economic development and the best place for an arena as well as sportsplex. What we have set out to do as a group has been accomplished. He thanked Council and Commissioners for their patience.

Mr. Rogers explained the criteria in the RFP's. He thanked Mr. Piti Vasquez, Director, County Purchasing Department, and Ms. Veronica Rosales, City Planner, stating they could not have done what they have done without these two individuals. He also thanked Mr. Nat Campos, Director of the County's Planning and Management Department, Mr. Kelly Heidtman, Specialty Accounts Sales Manager for the CVB (Convention & Visitors Bureau), Mr. David Bobo, Sr. Vice President-General Manager, Convention & Performing Arts Center, and Mr. Charles Meeks, Director of Convention Visitors Bureau. He then introduced David Stone, Senior Project Director for C. H. Johnson Consulting, and Ray Ashe, Architect, Rosser International (sub-consultants for CH Johnson Consulting).

Mr. Stone thanked everyone who helped with this report. He distributed documents and gave a brief power point presentation of the prepared report. Mr. Stone and Mr. Ashe fielded questions from Council and Commissioners.

Mr. Rogers closed with the recommendation that both political entities consider the formation of either a task force or a temporary sports authority, consisting initially of volunteers, to see methods and remedies to the challenges ahead.

Comments were made by Representative Sumrall, Representative Medina, Representative Rodriguez, Representative Cook, Representative Ortega, and Representative Escobar. Comments were made by Commissioners Aguilar, Scruggs and Teran.

It was determined that the entities would work on joint resolutions with staff of both the City and the County to include Mr. Rodgers' recommendation and that the financial advisors for both entities work together to look at financing opportunities for this proposal.


Meeting adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Carole Hunter, City Clerk

Carole Hunter, City Clerk



Charles F. McNabb, City Attorney